

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the previously amended claims to read as follows.

(Previously presented): 1. A decorative table covering comprising:

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of a selected shape of table top but smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover,

loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover, and

at least one decorative tie to be fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way between adjacent loop extensions.

(Previously presented): 2. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the fabric cover which is placed in the middle of a table top of such shape and size does not extend to the edge of the table top except to the extent portions providing loop extensions so extend.

(Previously presented): 3. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which at least part of the fabric cover is perforated in a decorative design to expose the table top or cover thereon beneath the fabric cover.

(Currently amended): 4. The decorative table covering of claim 3 in which at least one perforated area of the fabric cover has ~~the perforation covered with~~ perforations cover another contrasting fabric.

(Cancelled): 5.

(Original): 6. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which at least part of the fabric cover is non-woven.

(Previously presented): 7. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the adjacent ends of decorative ties designed to extend through the loops on the loop extensions are pulled together and the ends of the decorative ties tied to each other in a decorative manner.

(Cancelled): 8.

(Original): 9. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the ties are made of material different from the fabric cover.

(Original): 10. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the ties are a different color from the fabric cover.

(Original): 11. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the loop extensions are separate pieces from the fabric cover and attached to the fabric cover.

(Previously presented): 12. The decorative table covering of claim 11 in which each loop is formed by folding back the loop extension on itself, connecting one end of each extension near the other end, and connecting the loop extension as a whole to the fabric cover.

(Previously presented): 13. The decorative table covering of claim 12 in which the folding back of the end of the loop on the top is only part way to the periphery of the fabric cover to which the other end is attached and the two ends of the extension are decoratively connected together in that position.

(Previously presented): 14. The decorative table covering of claim 11 in which the loop is formed by rolling one end of the extension into a loop and connecting the contacting parts of the loop together and the opposite end of the extension to the fabric cover.

(Cancelled): 15.

(Cancelled): 16.

(Original): 17. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the loop extensions are an integral part of the fabric of the fabric cover.

(Original): 18. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the loop extensions are individually decorated.

(Previously presented): 19. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the fabric cover corresponds in shape to a table top shape on which it is intended to be used but is smaller in size than such a table top.

(Previously presented): 20. The decorative table covering of claim 19 in which a table top on which the covering is intended to be used is circular and the fabric cover is circular but of smaller diameter.

(Previously presented): 21. The decorative table covering of claim 19 in which the shape of a table top on which the decorative covering is to be used is generally rectangular and the fabric cover is generally rectangular but smaller.

(Previously presented): 22. The decorative table covering of claim 19 in which the table top shape is generally square and the fabric cover is generally square but smaller.

(Previously presented): 23. The decorative table covering of claim 1 in which the loop extensions will extend to and beyond the edge of such a table top size so that the ties when installed through the loop extensions will lie outside and fall below the table top so as to tend to hold the decorative table covering in place on the table.

(Previously presented): 24. The decorative table covering of claim 23 in which the loop extensions are designed to extend below such a table top sufficiently far that the ties when installed may be pulled sufficiently tight to pull at least some part of the ties under the table top.

Please replace cancelled claims 5, 8, 15 and 16 with the following independent claims as suggested by the Examiner for the purpose of allowance:

(New): 25. A decorative table covering comprising:

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of a selected shape of table top but smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover, and in which at least part of the fabric cover is perforated in a decorative design to expose the table top or cover thereon beneath the fabric cover and at least one perforated area thereof has perforation covering another contrasting fabric, and in which the other contrasting fabric has openings which enables the table top or still another covering beneath the contrasting fabric to be seen,

loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover, and

at least one decorative tie to be fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way between adjacent loop extensions.

(New): 26. A decorative table covering comprising:

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of a selected shape of table top but smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover,

loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover, and

decorative ties to be sequentially fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way by some other decorative fastening member than the ties themselves between adjacent loop extensions.

(New): 27. A decorative table covering comprising:

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of a selected shape of table top but smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover,

separate pieces from the fabric cover and attached to the fabric cover as loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover in which the loop is formed in at least one loop extension by connecting one end of the extension to the fabric cover and the other end of the extension to the connected end near the fabric cover by a decorative connector with a decorative side of the connector visible, and

at least one decorative tie to be fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way between adjacent loop extensions.

(New): 28. A decorative table covering comprising:

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of a selected shape of table top but smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover,

loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover in which at least one loop extension has at least one decorative cut out through its fabric, and

at least one decorative tie to be fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way between adjacent loop extensions.

Please enter the following new independent and dependent claims for the purpose of allowance or appeal:

(New): 29. A decorative table covering comprising:

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of a selected shape of table top but

smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover,

loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top having a sufficient spacing between the lateral edges of adjacent loops distributive along a common edge of such a table and spacing on the order of at least half the width of the loops or more at the table edge in each case sufficient to display a supported tie in draped or other decorative display, and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover the length of the extensions allowing them to extend below the table top sufficiently that the loops provide sole support for further decorative elements without contacting any support structure beneath the table top, and

at least one decorative tie to be fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way between adjacent loop extensions.

(New): 30. The decorative table covering of claim 29 in which at least the decorative tie contrasts with the fabric of the table cover in form, color or texture.

(New): 31. The decorative table covering of claim 29 in which the cumulative length of all segments of the decorative tie when connected together exceeds the length of the periphery of the table top, whereby draping the decorative tie between loops is permitted and tautness in the tie is avoided.

(New): 32. The decorative table covering of claiming 30 in which the general shape of the fabric cover is rectangular to correspond to a desired table shape and has loop extensions spaced away from the corners at the fabric cover of at least about half the distance between adjacent loop extensions or more.

(New): 33. A decorative table covering comprising:

a table having a selected shape and size of the table top,

a fabric cover generally corresponding to the shape of the selected shape of table top but smaller such that, when placed on such a table top, it will expose parts of the table top, or

any covering thereon, beyond the peripheral edges of the fabric cover,

loop extensions on the fabric cover periodically extending from the periphery of the fabric cover to the edge of the table top and providing loops for ties to be spaced from the periphery of the fabric cover, and

at least one decorative tie to be fed through the loops and around the table top in a decorative way and so that adjacent ends of ties may be connected together in a decorative way between adjacent loop extensions.